



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT : Scott, Thomas J.
Serial No. : 10/617,957
Filed : July 10, 2003
For : BALLAST EXCHANGE SYSTEM
FOR MARINE VESSELS
Examiner : Unknown
Art Unit : Unknown

ATTY DOCKET: 205,889

October 22, 2003

REPLY TO NOTICE TO FILE ABSTRACT

In accordance with the Notice of October 9, 2003, attached is an Abstract along with a copy of the Notice. No fee is believed to be due. If it is determined that a fee is required, the Office may charge the firm's Deposit Account No. 01-0035.

Respectfully submitted,

ABELMAN, FRAYNE & SCHWAB
Attorneys for Applicant

By

Thomas E. Spath
Reg. No 25,928
150 East 42nd Street
New York, NY 10017-5612
Tel: 212-949-9022



USSN 10/617,957

Scott

AFS: 205,889

ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus for replacing existing ballast water in the ballast tanks of a ship while the ship is underway in the sea utilizes a seawater inlet port in the bow of the ship that admits water when the ship is moving to produce a pressure that is greater than the pressure of the ballast water that is to be replaced, with the incoming seawater from the inlet port being directed into the bottom portion of the ballast tanks where it rises to displace the existing ballast water from outlet ports located in a top portion of the ballast tanks.